

ordered another 4,000 into Iraq, into the cauldron of violence that his incompetence has created.

The generals have spoken, Mr. Speaker. Tell the President to listen to us. Will you? Somebody has got to talk to the President. He doesn't seem to listen to Members of Congress. The generals have now spoken. What is he waiting for? Perhaps it is the election.

DEMOCRATS OUT OF TOUCH

(Ms. FOXX asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to deliver a message: The Democrats have no direction when it comes to the war on terror and national security. Just this week, the minority leader said, and I quote, "5 years after 9/11 Osama bin Laden is still free, and not a single terrorist who planned 9/11 has been caught and brought to justice."

In reality, currently, the U.S. has in captivity Khalid Shaikh Mohammad, the mastermind behind 9/11; Mustafa Ahmad as-Hawsawi, a financier of the 9/11 attacks; and Ramzi-Bin al-Shibh, who served as a facilitator between the 9/11 hijackers in the U.S. and the al Qaeda leadership in Pakistan and Afghanistan.

Another baffling statement was made recently by the Senate minority leader referring to the national security bills the House has passed to make our Nation safer and secure our porous borders. The Senate minority leader openly said that the Republican Congress is spending time on issues that are not relevant to the American people.

Mr. Speaker, the statements of the respected minority leaders lead me to believe that not only are the Democrats out of touch with the majority of Americans, but it appears as if they are now completely out of touch with reality.

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SPY AGENCIES SAY IRAQ WAR WORSENS TERRORISM THREAT

(Ms. SOLIS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, the headlines in the New York Times says it all, "Spy Agencies Say Iraq War Worsens Terrorism Threat."

The top secret terrorism document was completed in April, after receiving final approval from all 16 national intelligence departments. The report concludes that rather than being in retreat, Islamic radicalism has spread across the globe. According to an American intelligence official, the report says that the Iraq war has made the overall terrorism problem worse and attacks continue to increase, with 2,700 soldiers killed and 17,000 injured.

And yet, over the last month President Bush told the American people

that our Nations and its allies are safer than they ever were.

Mr. Speaker, it is time for the President to be honest with the American public. He needs to tell the truth, and we need to make sure that those folks that are preparing to vote in November don't believe all of these lies and scare tactics being used by the Republican Party.

NATIONAL DEFENSE

(Mrs. MILLER of Michigan asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, when I decided to run for Congress, I made a conscious decision to do so, and I took my oath of office very seriously, just as every Member before me and every Member in the future will as well.

I knew that the first and foremost responsibility of the Federal Government was to provide for the national defense. It is actually in the preamble of our Constitution. America is a peace-loving Nation. And yet we find ourselves in a war with an enemy who hides in the shadows and preys on the innocent, terrorists who have murdered innocent citizens and are enemies of freedom and liberty and democracy.

Mr. Speaker, election day is coming to our Nation, and as Americans make their decisions, national security and the war on terror is on every voter's mind. So I ask them to consider what the Democratic minority leader said in a recent interview about the upcoming elections when asked about the importance of national security. She said, "This is what I guess campaigns will be about. It shouldn't be about national security."

Mr. Speaker, Americans are dying and the Democratic minority leader doesn't think national security should be an issue. Think about that.

AMERICA IS NOT SAFER TODAY

(Mr. PALLONE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, America is not safer today than it was before 9/11. The President can continue to deny this fact in speeches around the country, but his own intelligence agencies concluded that the world is not safer today, and the main reason is the ongoing war in Iraq.

This is not the only proof that we are less safe today than 5 years ago. A recent independent Council on Global Terrorism report assigned a grade of D-plus to our Nation's efforts in combating Islamic extremism. The council concluded that "there is every sign that radicalization in the Muslim world is spreading rather than shrinking."

Another report, this one by Foreign Policy Magazine, surveyed our Nation's

top security experts from across the political spectrum and their conclusions that 84 percent said we are losing the war on terrorism and 87 percent said the war in Iraq had a negative impact on the war on terror.

Mr. Speaker, it is time that we get back to fighting the real war on terror. We need to begin redeploying our troops out of Iraq and refocusing our efforts in Afghanistan. How can we defeat the terrorists if we have seven times as many troops in Iraq as we do in Afghanistan?

NATIONAL SECURITY

(Mr. PITTS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, as we remember 9/11, it should renew our determination to see justice brought to those responsible and to protect our homeland against further attack.

This week, we will take up legislation on both of those points. Thanks to the hard work and dedication of our intelligence community, we have captured most of those responsible for murdering nearly 3,000 of our innocent civilians on 9/11.

This week, we will create a framework to bring these terrorists to justice. It will provide a system that is fair and firm and ensures that these terrorists are never again given the chance to do us harm.

We will also work to prevent further attacks on America by strengthening our surveillance capabilities on terrorist activities. In the war on terror, intelligence-gathering is crucial, and we must give our intelligence community the tools it needs to protect America.

Mr. Speaker, nothing is more urgent than strengthening our national security.

AMERICA'S ECONOMIC SITUATION

(Mr. CARNAHAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CARNAHAN. Mr. Speaker, President Bush and congressional Republicans are out of touch with the economic conditions faced by millions of working Americans today. If they would only take time to talk with any working Americans, they would hear that most fear they are losing their piece of the American Dream. Most Americans are not asking for much. They want to keep their heads above water without going into debt so they can provide a better future for their children.

Unfortunately, most Americans believe the American Dream is getting harder to reach, and many fear their children will be worse off in the future. Working Americans are justifiably skeptical about today's economy. While overall productivity is up,